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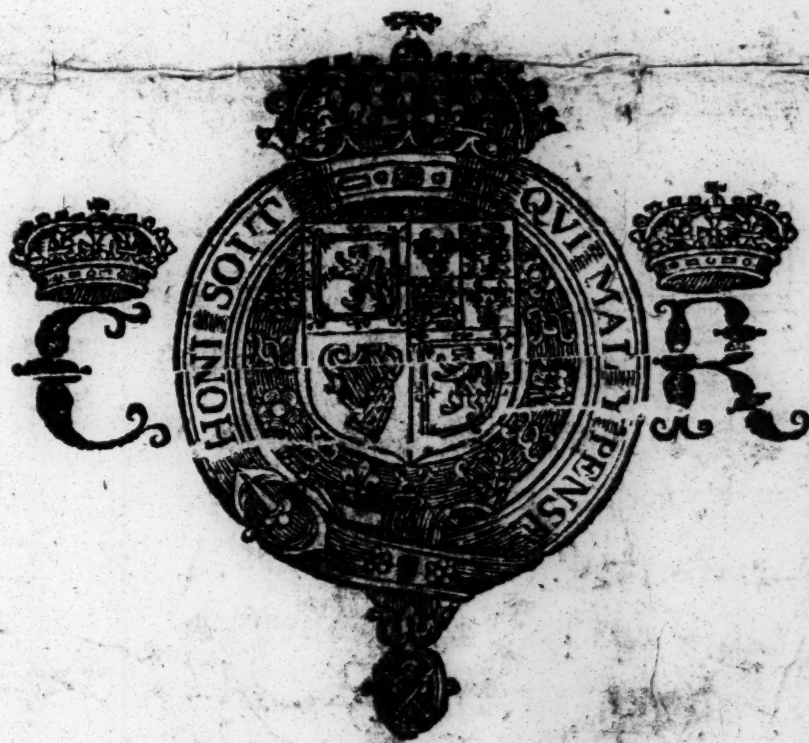
HIS MAJESTIES  
GRACIOUS  
S P E E C H

To both Houses of  
PARLIAMENT:

Together with the  
L. CHANCELLORS,

*In Christ-Church-Hall in Oxford,*

On Tuesday, Octob. 10. 1665.



EDINBURGH,  
Re-printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the King's most Excellent  
Majesty, 1665.



Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page, is visible at the bottom of the document. The text is mirrored and includes the words "Excellent" and "most".



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My Lords and Gentlemen,

**I** Am confident you all believe, that if it had not been absolutely necessary to consult with you, I would not have called you together at this time, when the Contagion hath so spread it self over so many parts of the Kingdom. I take it for a good Omen to see so good an appearance this day, and I doubt not, every day will add to your number; and I give you all *My* thanks for your compliance so far with *My* desires.

The truth is, as I entred upon this War by your advice and encouragement; so I do desire, that you may as frequently as is possible, receive information of the Conduct and Effects of it, and that I may have the continuance of your cheerful Supply for the carrying it on. I will not deny to you, that it hath proved more chargeable then I could imagine it would have been; The addition they still made to their Fleets, beyond their first purpose, made it unavoidably necessary for Me to make proportionable Preparations, which God hath hitherto blessed with success in all Encounters. And as the Enemy have used their utmost endeavours by



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Calumnies and false Suggestions, to make themselves Friends, and to perswade others to assist them against Us; so I have not been wanting to encourage those Princes who have been wronged by the Dutch, to recover their own by force; and in order thereunto, have assisted the Bishop of Munster with a very great sum of ready Money, and am to continue a supply to him, who is now in the bowels of their Countrey with a Powerful Army.

These Issues, which I may tell you, have been made with very good Conduct and Husbandry, (nor indeed do I know that any thing hath been spent, that could have been well and safely saved) I say, this expence will not suffer you to wonder, that the great Supply which you gave Me for this War, in so bountiful a proportion, is upon the matter already spent: So that I must not only expect an assistance from you, to carry on this War; but such an assistance, as may enable Me to defend My Self and you, against a more Powerful Neighbour, if he shall prefer the Friendship of the Dutch before Mine.

I told you, when I entered upon this War, That I had not such a Brutal appetite, as to make War for War sake. I am still of the same mind: I have been ready to receive any Propositions that France hath thought fit to offer to that end; but hitherto nothing hath been offered worthy My acceptance; nor is the Dutch less insolent, though I know no advantage they have had, but the continuance of the Contagion: God Almighty, I hope, will shortly deprive them of that encouragement.

The Chancellor will inform you of all the Particulars.